

# CODE OF CONDUCT

## Mt. Vernon Parks and Recreation

**Mission** To unify the youth of the city of Mt. Vernon, Indiana by providing diverse recreational opportunities, beautiful parks, attractive facilities and innovative leadership for the enjoyment of our residents and visitors by providing a broad range of recreational opportunities at various facilities to the general population, especially the youth of our community.

The Mt. Vernon Parks and Recreation Department will not tolerate verbal or physical abuse of its volunteer coaches, referees, or players by any parent, player, or spectator. All spectators, players, and coaches must abide by the Code of Conduct described herein at sports leagues and events. The following Code of Conduct will protect the children, ensure the integrity of our program(s), and emphasize the values of the MVPR.

### **For Coaches:**

As a coach it is your responsibility to uphold the values of the MVPR, and provide the team a positive experience.

As a coach I agree to:

Set an example for my players, parents/guardians, and spectators and strive to make this program a positive and enjoyable experience for ALL participants.

Actively promote the Code of Conduct.

Maintain my composure in both victory and defeat, and remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for the children and NOT for the adults.

Never in any way verbally or physically abuse, intimidate, be flagrantly rude, or use vulgar inappropriate language or actions to an official opposing coach, player, volunteer, spectator or league official.

Abide by the rules of the game/program at all times and ensure that your players do as well.

Place the well-being and safety of each player above anything else, including the development of their performance.

Never either physically or mentally push a child beyond their abilities. Accept that the game is of minor consideration when compared to the child's future health and well-being.

Encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behavior and performance. Never condone unacceptable behavior.

Refrain from being under the influence or in the possession of alcohol or illegal substances.

Refrain from using tobacco products.

Submit to a background screening with regards to your suitability to work with children.

### **Consequences of violating MVPR's Code of Conduct**

At any MVPR event, practice, or competition, any parent, spectator, player or coach who verbally abuses, attempts to intimidate, is flagrantly rude, uses inappropriate or vulgar language or actions to an official, coach, volunteer, or other spectator will be asked to leave the event immediately.

Anyone who commits a second similar offense will be banned from Mt. Vernon Parks and Recreation events for the remainder of the season.

Any parent, spectator, player or coach who physically assaults an official, coach, volunteer, or player will be banned for one year from the date of the offense. After one year they may apply for re-instatement. If they were to commit a second offense, he or she would be banned permanently from all MVPR events, practices, or competitions.

Physical assault includes, but is not limited to hitting, slapping, pushing, spitting, kicking, or striking and any way any part of the body or any physical implement. A probation or suspension may be appealed to the director of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Depending on the offense, MVPR also retains the right to remove your child(ren) from the league for the remainder of the season. MVPR will not refund registration fees.

All illegal activities will be reported to the Mt. Vernon Police Department.

# **Mt. Vernon Parks and Recreation**

**118 Main St.**

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**[www.mountvernon.in.gov](http://www.mountvernon.in.gov)**

